



IMPERIAL JAPANESE EMBASSY  
WASHINGTON

NOTES ON THE EXCLUSION OF JAPANESE CHILDREN  
FROM THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

On the 11th instant, the Board of Education of the City and County of San Francisco passed a resolution excluding children of Asiatic origin from all public schools of that city and only permitting them to attend a special school which is designated "The Oriental School". In support of its action the Board invokes section 1662 of the Political Code of California which reads as follows:-

Sec. 1662. Who may be admitted to. Every school, unless otherwise provided by law, must be open for the admission of all children between six and twenty years of age residing in the district, and the board of school trustees, or city board of education, have power to admit adults and children not residing in the district, whenever good reason exist therefor. Trustees shall have the power to exclude children of filthy or vicious habits, or children suffering from contagious or infectious diseases, and also to establish separate schools for Indian children and for children of Mongolian or Chinese descent. When such separate schools are established, Indian, Chinese, or Mongolian children must not be admitted into any other school; provided, that in cities and towns in which the kindergarten has been adopted or may hereafter be adopted as part of the public primary schools, children may be admitted to such kindergarten classes at the age of four years; and provided further, that in cities or school districts in which separate classes have been or may hereafter be established, for the instruction of the deaf, children may be admitted to such classes at the age of three years.

The resolution referred to, under which the Japanese children are now absolutely excluded from the ordinary public schools

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Notes on the Boycotting of Japanese Restaurants.

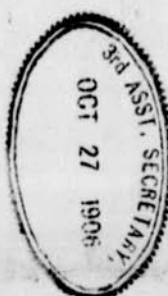
Encl. 5.

Oct. 25, 1906.

Notes on the Boycotting of Japanese restaurants and assaults on Japanese residents at San Francisco. States that the boycott is instigated and carried on by various labor unions, and the methods pursued by them. Cites especially the case the Jap. "Golden Bay Restaurant" which was subjected to an organized attack. Japanese Consul's attention has been called to 17 cases of assault within 30 days, and although he brought the matter before the authorities at San Francisco there has been no perceptible abatement of the matters complained of.  
(Received 10/25/06.)

FILES, V. S.

*To Mr. Linnell  
Oct 26.*



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schools of San Francisco took effect from Monday, October 15th. The so-called Oriental School to which the Board of Education of that city refers the Japanese children for attendance, is located in the burned district and far removed from the portion of the city in which the Japanese children and their parents live. Mr. Uyeno, His Majesty's Consul in San Francisco, reports that to reach the school in question, children must pass through congested streets littered with debris or travel on crowded cars, thus exposing themselves, under the material and social conditions actually prevailing in that city, not only to accidents and danger from physical causes but to cruel maltreatment at the hands of misguided youths or other undesirable elements that constitute social dangers in any community. Hence, apart from a stigma which is unavoidably associated with an act of discrimination and segregation, the Consul is convinced that many parents will hesitate to expose their children to such possibilities of harm, more especially as many of the children are of tender years and their homes are widely scattered.

On the 12th instant, Mr. Uyeno addressed a communication to the Board of Education, in which, without entering upon any discussion of the legal questions involved, he invited the earnest attention of the Board to the fact that a strict enforcement of its resolution would practically deprive many Japanese children of school privileges and expressed

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the hope that the Board might see its way to so modify its resolution of the previous day as to relieve it of all discrimination against the Japanese children.

Upon presentation of this communication which was coupled with verbal representation on the part of the Consul, he was assured that the question would receive serious consideration at the meeting of the Board which was convened for Thursday, October the 18th, and that he would be informed of the result of its deliberations as soon as a resolution was taken at that meeting.

Failing to receive any answer to his representations the Consul again addressed a note to the Board of Education, on the evening of the 20th of October, protesting against its action and calling attention to the fact that the resolution of the 11th instant was based on racial distinction and constituted an act of injustice which would be seriously resented by the people of Japan.

On the 23rd instant a communication dated October 22nd was received by the Consul from the Board of Education in reply to his representations of the 12th instant. The purport of the reply is substantially as follows:-

1. The Order issued by the Board of Education is based on the provisions of section 1662 of the Political Code of California.
2. The Oriental school is so located that it involves no more hardship for the Japanese children to go there than to go to the ordinary public schools.

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3. For the accomodation of about fifty young children it is intended to establish a school near the place where they live.

The Consul seeing that a discussion as to the adequacy or inadequacy of the proposed remedial measures could lead to no useful result, refrained from entering into a discussion of that phase of the question but in a note which he again addressed to the Baord confimed himself to the following points:-

1. That the establishment of a separate primary school for infant Japanese children does not meet the essential point of grievance complained of.
2. That the point to which the serious attention of the Board is invited consists in the discriminatory character of the order of the Board. The exclusion of children from ordinary public schools, because of their Japanese origin, is based on racial distinction and is as such resented by the Japanese people as derogatory to their dignity.

In a telegram which was received by Viscount Aoki from Mr. Consul Uyeno on the 24th instant, the latter states that thus far no answer has been received from the Mayor of San Francisco, to whom representations were made by the Consul on the 19th instant. Mr. Uyeno adds, that he has addressed a note to the Governor of California communicating

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to him the facts of the case and urging the necessity of  
immediate remedial action.

October 25th, 1906.